

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 02299 210841Z

ACTION EUR-12

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, OTRA, DA

SUBJ: RETIREMENT OF GEN. OTTO BLIXENKRONE-MILLER, CHIEF OF
DEFENSE

1. DENMARK'S CHIEF OF DEFENSE, GENERAL BLIXENKRONE-MILLER, IS RETIRING ON MAY 1 AFTER NEARLY FOUR AND ONE HALF YEARS OF SERVICE AS THIS COUNTRY'S SENIOR MILITARY OFFICER. ON APRIL 18, I GAVE A DINNER IN HONOR OF THIS GREAT FRIEND OF OUR COUNTRY. GUESTS INCLUDED THE NEW CHIEF OF DEFENSE DESIGNATE, LTGEN KNUD JORGENSEN AND OTHER LEADING DANISH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN FIGURES. THE DANISH GUESTS WERE FLATTERED THAT GENERAL HAIG FLEW UP FROM BRUSSELS ONLY FOR THIS PARTICULAR OCCASION. HIS PRESENCE WAS A REFLECTION OF THE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY TIES THAT EXIST BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. AT THE CONCLUSION OF DINNER I PRESENTED A LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, GENERAL BROWN, TO THE RETIRING DANISH DEFENSE CHIEF.

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2. THE NEW DANISH CHIEF OF DEFENSE JORGENSEN IS STAUNCHLY PRO-AMERICAN AND LAST VISITED THE UNITED STATES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ROLL-OUT OF THE F-16 LAST FALL. THE SOVIETS DISPLAYED PARTICULAR INEPTNESS BY A PRAVDA PIECE WHICH ATTACKED JORGENSEN AS A "TIN SOLDIER", A REFERENCE TO ONE OF HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN'S FAIRY TAILS.

3. I RECOMMEND THAT THE USG EXTEND AN EARLY INVITATION TO
GENERAL JORGENSEN TO VISIT THE U.S. AND CONSULT WITH AMER-
ICAN MILITARY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS. TOWARD THIS
END, I WILL MAKE SUGGESTIONS IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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